purging ſtoutly, ſaid, There, Miſtreſs, is Gold for you. A Child in the Cradle having alſo taſted of the Pye, was much doſed, and turned its Mouth to and again, and thus they continued for ſome Days, and then became well. All which was confirmed to me by the Man and and Wife of the ſaid Houſe, where we then went to refreſh our ſelves (they then keeping a Publick Houſe).

Here it may be queried, whether the Yellow Colour the Flowers running in their Minds (which the eating of the Roots had now depraved) might not beget that Idea in them, to fancy moſt things to be Gold, they alſo being Yellow.

VI *Part of a Letter from Sir* Robert Sibbald, *to Dr.* Sloane, *concerning ſeveral Stones voided by a Boy*, &c.

THis ſame Month of *June*, a rare Caſe occur'd to me in the Perſon of a Boy, going in the Thirteenth Year of his Age, Son to a Friend; this Boy had the Misfortune Four Weeks ago to fall backwards upon a Stone, againſt which the hinder Part of his Head was ſtruck with ſuch Force, that (as they who were thereby informed me) he lay the Fourth part of an Hour without Senſe, and the next Day vomited ſome Blood, he felt a Pain and Weight in the hinder part of his Head and Neck, and loſt Appetite. He concealed his Caſe, and ſo nothing was done for more than a Fortnight. After the Fall he went into the Country, and ſtayed a few Days,

Days, and as he was coming back he had a frequent Deſire to Piſs, and lighted from the Horſe ſeveral times, but could make no Urine; he vomited in this time; the Suppreſſion had continued Twenty Four Hours and more, when I came to viſit him. He had a great Pain in his Head, a Pain in his Back and Groines, and in the Region of the Bladder, which was ſwell'd, and he could not ſuffer it to be touch'd. I cauſed ſome mild Diureticks to be given to him preſently, anointed his Groines and the *Regio Pubis* with the uſual Ointment, and cauſed a Clyſter to be injected; upon which, that Night he paſſed firſt ſome Sand, and then ſome Urine by Spoonfuls. I cauſed him afterwards to be put in an half Bath of Appropriate Simples: He was the Days following let Blood and Purged; and becauſe the Pain and Weight in his Head troubled him much, a Large Veſcatory was applied to the *Nucha*, which diſcharged much Humour from it. While this was a doing, he paſt very much Sand of a Greyiſh and Whitiſh Colour; and after the firſt Purge, began to paſs Stones by the Yard, of a conſiderable Bigneſs, with Pain in the Back ſometime before they fell down, then in the Groines, or along the Ureters, and moſt in the Right Side, yet ſometimes in the Left alſo. He found the Yard much dilated while they paſſed it, and he had a ſmarting Pain then and while the Urine flowed; the Stones came in with the firſt of the Urine: He got ſeveral Emulſions which had good Effect. Some of the Stones were Round, ſome Oval, ſome of theſe Shapes

Some of a Pyramidal Form, ſome Cubical. The Colours were different, ſome whitiſh, ſome brown, ſome blewiſh, ſome black, or of a dark Colour; the Conſiſtence of a ſandy Stone, and ſome looked like to Bricks, ſome in the thickneſs the Tenth Part of an Inch, ſome the Twelfth part of it, ſome half an Inch long; moſt of them approached to a Triangular Form. He found a Weight in the Bladder when they fell down; and he told me, he was ſenſible they came down the Ureters. He leaped and ran ſometimes to haſten their Deſcent. I was preſent when he paſt One, and I heard it fall into the Urinal, and ſaw it there; his Relations ſaw moſt of them when they were paſt. Theſe Stones are not made up of ſeveral Coats upon other (as many confirmed Stones are) but look like Bricks, and may eaſily be mouldred to Powder. In a Fortnights time he hath paſt above Threeſcore of them by the Yard.

Since my writing this, the Boy (who is but going Thirteen Years (as his Parents ſay) hath paſſed ſeveral Triangular Stones, ſome thicker than the Sixth part of an Inch; and upon the 20th and 21th Inſtant he hath paſſed Three by the Fundament, Two of them Triangular pretty big, and One as big as a little Plumb, but of the Shape of a Pear, of the ſame ſandy Conſiſtence as the former, and of a Greyiſh Colour. He hath paſt none by the Yard ſince he paſt theſe the other way.

I was inquiſitive about his Diet, and was told by his Parents, that for ſome Years that they lived near to the Shoar of the *Firth* of *Forth*, the Boy ran often after the Women that catched the Sand Eels (*Ammodites*) and brought Home his Pockets full of them, which oftentimes he boiled without taking Pains (as he ought) to free them of the Sand that ſtuck to them. This, with the Glutinous Juice of that Fiſh, and the Sand mixed with

with the Bread, and other Aliments he uſed, hath furniſhed abundant Matter for theſe Stones, it is like (ſince he never had any Symptome of this before the Fall he got of late) the Hurt in the Hinder Part of the Head might have occaſioned ſome Torpor in the Nerves, ſo that the *Fibrillæ* in the Kidneys could not act ſo vigorouſly (as need was) in the Separation and Expulſion of the Sand; and thus it came to gather and form into Stones. He continueth paſſing daily ſeveral of them with great Quantities of Sand, notwithſtanding the uſual Remedies are continued. This is a Specimen of the Art of Nature and her Mechaniſm, in giving ſuch various Shapes to theſe Stones, by directing the Matter ſo regularly to ſuch Forms. I ſhall give you ſome Caſes which ſhew her Power in diſſolving Stones, when coated and of a more united Texture.

The Firſt occur'd in a Worthy Friend of mine, a Reverend Divine now above the Seventieth Year of his Age. He, after he hath theſe Ten Years paſt ſuffered much from a confirmed Stone he hath in his Bladder, ſince the beginning of this laſt Winter he hath paſſed a vaſt Number of Slices of ſeveral Figures, many of them cornered and pointed, much of the thickneſs of a Shilling Sterling, white within and ſmooth, but without of a dark Colour, with Pain, and ſometimes a Suppreſſion of Urine for ſeveral Hours precedeth them; he maketh uſe of the uſual Remedies; in the Intervals he hath tolerable good Health. I was told by an expert Phyſician, a Friend of mine, of Two Patients of his, the One yet alive, who after paſſing an incredible Number of theſe Slices, is now in perfect Health, and free of that Diſeaſe. The other, who died long ago, after paſſing for a long time ſuch Slices, became free of the Diſeaſe, and when his Body was opened at his Death, no Stone nor Slices were found in his Bladder. So even in this obſtinate Diſeaſe, ſometimes *Natura eſt Medicatrix.* VII.